



*Emerging Issues Subcommittee*  
Meeting Minutes  
July 10, 2008

**Summary**

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Emerging Issues Subcommittee Members in Attendance (8):

Dennis Embry, Chair (PAXIS Institute)

Wendy Wolfersteig (Arizona State University, Arizona Prevention Resource Center)

David Choate, proxy Co-Chair (proxy for Charles Katz, Arizona State University, Arizona Arrestee Reporting Information Network)

Richard Porter (Arizona Department of Health Services, Bureau of Vital Statistics)

Michelle Neitch (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission) (proxy for Phillip Stevenson (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission))

Meena Shahi (Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services)

Jody Sekerak (Indian Health Services)

Judith Fritsch (Department of Economic Security, Community Partnerships and Innovative Practices)—via conference call

Emerging Issues Subcommittee Members Absent (7):

Alida Montiel (Inter Tribal Council of Arizona)

Michelle Anderson (Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections)

Joan McNamara (Pima County/Tucson Commission on Drug Addiction and Prevention, Compass Health Care)

Jerry Boehm (Arizona Council of Human Service Providers)

John Morris (Yavapai County Drug Courts)

Christina Cutshaw (University of Arizona)—via conference call

Wanda LeClere MacDonald (Navajo Behavioral Health Services, Navajo Nation)

Governor's Office Staff (1):

Jeanne Blackburn (GOCYF)

Public (0):



**Call to Order** was made by David Choate at 1:20 p.m.

**Welcome and Introductions**

- David Choate asked the attendees and guests present to introduce themselves and their respective agency/group.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- Approval of June meeting minutes was tabled.

**Announcements**

- Meena Shahi informed the group that she will no longer be employed at the Arizona Department of Health Services as of the end of July as she has accepted a position at Arizona Early Childhood and Health Board First things First.
- Wendy Wolfersteig informed the group that she will continue working at the Arizona Prevention Resource Center half-time while the other half of her time will be devoted to the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center (SIRC), housed at Arizona State University.
- Dennis Embry informed the group of his publication on the prevention of child maltreatment, which indicated a reduction in the number of out-of-home placements and child maltreatment; reduction in lifetime conduct disorders and medical injuries from child maltreatment; and the fiscal impact of such reductions.
  - The article will be published by the end of the year in *Prevention Science*.
  - Dennis will send the abstract to Jeanne Blackburn for distribution to the group members.
- Meena Shahi noted that the Legacy Project was featured on the front page of the *Wall Street Journal* and asked whether the high incarceration rates of males was an emerging issue with which the group should be concerned.

**Update on Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group/ASAP**

- Jeanne Blackburn updated the subcommittee on the Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group and the ASAP.
  - The Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group had furthered their discussion about the content and format of their annual Snapshot document, including:
    - The desired outline of the document has been requested from the Epi Work Group members, who will submit this information to Jeanne for her synthesis of the information into one cohesive document.
  - The June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ASAP included visitors from the Indiana Governor's Office as Arizona is being looked at as a model state to which other states are looking for guidance as they attempt to create infrastructures similar to ASAP.



### **Trend Projects: Children's Bipolar Disorder and Rx Drug Abuse**

- The group elected to rename the "Trend Projects" to "Spotlight Reports," a title they thought more fitting of what they are trying to do (i.e., illuminate emerging trends).
  - It was decided that a spotlight graphic would be used on reports to "brand" them.
- Dennis Embry provided the group with the most recent draft of these projects.
- The group members were asked to examine the documents more closely at their leisure and send edits/comments to Jeanne Blackburn by July 15.
- Dennis Embry indicated that he could place the documents, once they are completed, on the Paxis Institute website.
- David Choate also indicated that he could put the documents on ASU's Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety website.
- The group discussed the potential focus of the next Spotlight report.
  - It was suggested that the next focus could be on underage drinking, potentially on younger age of initiation.

### **Focus Group Results**

- Dennis Embry provided the group with the most recent draft of this project.
- The group members were asked to examine the documents more closely at their leisure and send edits/comments to Jeanne Blackburn by July 15.
- Dennis Embry indicated that he could place the document, once it is completed, on the Paxis Institute website.
- David Choate also indicated that he could put the document on ASU's Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety website.

### **Canary Survey**

- The group decided to table discussion of this project until the August meeting, to which members should bring lists of agencies/people to whom the survey would be distributed.
  - At the August meeting, the group agreed to discuss:
    - Reinventing the survey into a quarterly "push" survey (i.e., one directed at a different agency/group of people, etc.—Quantitative Focus
    - Keeping the Canary Survey as a "pull" survey that will "sit" in cyberspace waiting for people/communities to respond to it (with a discussion of how to entice people to complete it)—Qualitative Focus

### **Call to Public**

- No one from the public was present to provide comment.

**Adjourn** at 2:57 p.m. with a reminder that the next meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2008.

Minutes submitted by Jeanne Blackburn (GOCYF).